

Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism

Arts Committee Meeting November 2, 2010 Middlesex Chamber of Commerce Middletown, Connecticut

Present: Ted Yudain, Carolyn Cicchetti, Betty Hale, Paul Pozzi, Rita Schmidt, Ann Sheffer, Michael Price (arrived about 11:10)

Absent: Dick Allen, Philip Eliasoph, Walter Fiederowicz, Clem Roy

Staff: Karen Senich, An-Ming Truxes, Cathy DeMeo

Call to Order

Ted Yudain called the meeting to order at 10:43 am.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 4, 2010 meeting were approved.

Motion: Paul Pozzi

Second: Betty Hale

Unanimous approval

Report from Committee Chair

In the interest of time, Ted did not have a report.

Report from the Arts Division Director

In the interest of time, An-Ming kept her report to one announcement. The Artists Collective in Hartford was one of 15 after-school programs to receive a 2010 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award – formerly called the Coming Up Taller Award. Executive Director Dollie McLean and several students from the Artists Collective recently attended the ceremony at the White House where they received the award from First Lady Michele Obama. The Collective Youth Jazz Orchestra also performed. As part of the award, the Artists Collective received \$10,000.

Action Item Recommendations

FY2011 General Operating Support grants – Kathleen DeMeo

132 grants = \$1,251,600

Motion: Paul Pozzi

Second: Rita Schmidt

Recusals: Betty Hale (Opera New England), Ted Yudain (Curtain Call), Ann Sheffer (Westport Country Playhouse)

Unanimous approval

Ann asked that staff analyze income trends (from GOS final reports) particularly regarding contributed income levels this year compared to last year. That, along with jobs data, would be good information to provide legislators.

FY2011 Arts Presentation grants – An-Ming Truxes

101 grants = \$71,828

Motion: Betty Hale

Second: Carolyn Cicchetti

Unanimous approval

An-Ming reported that the program is being re-designed and will have built-in measures to encourage applicants to engage the services of a variety of artists. Ted asked that the proposed program be brought to the Arts Committee before going forward.

FY2011 Creative Collaboration grants – An-Ming Truxes

12 grants = \$21,367

Motion: Paul Pozzi

Second: Betty Hale

Unanimous approval

Other Discussion

Betty proposed that CCT consider starting a grant program to help schools meet bus transportation costs for field trips to arts and cultural venues. Ted supported the idea. Ann and Carolyn pointed out that some organizations have funds earmarked for such purposes to which donors contribute. Karen said that we will look at other states' models. An-Ming mentioned that Massachusetts Cultural Council's program is supported by Bank of America and uses a simple online application process.

Michael Price inquired about CT Arts Alliance's plans regarding the new administration. He said the tourism advocacy group is scheduled to meet next Wednesday (Nov. 10). Is there a similar strategy meeting for arts advocates? Ann said that the CAA met with Tom Foley and Dannel Malloy prior to the election and provided each with an "arts platform." All agreed that tourism and the arts should be speaking from the same page.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 pm.

Motion: Carolyn Cicchetti

Second: Rita Schmidt

Unanimous approval